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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/820,174	04/06/2004	Peter John Williamson	HPA-20502/04	7382
25006	7590	10/07/2005	EXAMINER	
GIFFORD, KRASS, GROH, SPRINKLE & CITKOWSKI, P.C			AHMAD, NASSER	
PO BOX 7021			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
TROY, MI 48007-7021			1772	

DATE MAILED: 10/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/820,174	WILLIAMSON, PETER JOHN	
	<b>Examiner</b> Nasser Ahmad	<b>Art Unit</b> 1772	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

1)  Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 April 2004.

2a)  This action is **FINAL**.                            2b)  This action is non-final.

3)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

4)  Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)  Claim(s) 7-9 is/are allowed.

6)  Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.

7)  Claim(s) 6 is/are objected to.

8)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

9)  The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)  The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a)  accepted or b)  objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)  The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12)  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a)  All b)  Some \* c)  None of:  
1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

1)  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2)  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3)  Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date . . . .  
4)  Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_ .  
5)  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6)  Other: . . . .

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1 and 3-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McKay (2004/0194240).

McKay relates to an adhesive roller assembly (10) comprising a tubular adhesive roll (20) having a plurality of overlapping layers (figure-1), each layer having a backing (16) sheet and an adhesive coating (18) on an outwardly facing side of the backing sheet.

The assembly also includes a cover (the outermost sheet is taken to be the cover) which is removably disposed around and having one side in contact with an adjacent outermost layer of adhesive roll, the cover having a release coating on its inner side and having two longitudinally extending edges positioned closely adjacent to each other (see the cut line in the outer sheet (22)). A retainer strip (110) overlies the edges. As shown in figure-1, the cover is generally rectangular in shape. The cover comprises adhesive and paper. However, McKay fails to teach the presence of a pull-tab adhesively attached to the retainer strip. It is understood by the examiner that the retainer strip would include the pull-tab as the strip has to be gripped and pulled-at to remove the retainer strip and unroll the adhesive sheet layers. Therefore, it would have

been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify McKay by providing the retainer strip to include the pull-tab as it assists in gripping the retainer strip for facilitating unrolling the layers.

3. Claims 2 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McKay'240 in view of McKay (2004/0134003).

McKay, as discussed above, fails to teach that the layers are spirally wound. McKay'003 discloses adhesive rollers wherein the adhesive sheets are spirally wound (figures 2 and 4) to provide for preventing the sheets from unwinding during use. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to utilize McKay'003's teaching of using sheet in a spiral wound in the invention of McKay'240 with the motivation to prevent unwinding of the sheet during use.

The cover layer would also be spirally wound to be coextensive with the adhesive sheets for preventing unwinding of the cover sheet.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. Claims 7-9 are allowed.

The prior art fails to teach the forming of an adhesive roller assembly comprising spiral winding overlapping adhesive strips around a cylindrical core, spiral winding a cover assembly around the outermost layer of the overlapping strips, forming a longitudinal slit

through the cover assembly forming abutting edges, and applying an adhesive retainer strip along the abutting edges of the cover assembly (claim 7).

5. Claim 6 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

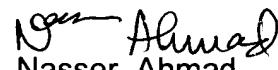
The prior art uncovered so far fails to teach that the adhesive tape layer comprises clear tape layer.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nasser Ahmad whose telephone number is 571-272-1487. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM, and on alternate Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Harold Pyon can be reached on 571-272-1498. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Nasser Ahmad 10/3/05  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1772

N. Ahmad.  
October 3, 2005.